

HELPFUL RESOURCES

JOB RESOURCES

▶ CTWORKS CAREER CENTERS

Regional Career Centers provide guidance and services to those seeking employment. In New London: 860-439-7400; in Norwich: 860-859-5600; in Danielson: 860-412-7000.

▶ UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

For an in-depth explanation of unemployment insurance and benefits call the TeleBenefits number in New London: 860-443-2041; in Norwich: 860-443-2041; in Danielson: 860-423-2521.

▶ WHERE TO TURN WHEN UNEMPLOYED

The United Way of Connecticut has produced a document titled "Where to Turn in Connecticut When You Become Unemployed." It contains information regarding unemployment insurance, medical benefits, legal assistance and help with job searches and money management. Contact my office at 1-800-842-1420 to receive this helpful publication.



Dear Neighbor:


As we all try to weather these challenging times, I wanted to share with you some of the efforts we have been making in the region and at the State Capitol.

While government has a role in helping turn the economic tide, it is a limited one. Reducing burdensome fees, streamlining the permitting process, targeted tax incentives and investments in education and infrastructure all contribute to helping the economy recover.

Together, we're working to strengthen Connecticut's economy, balance the budget and show Washington that cooperation doesn't have to be a bad word.

This newsletter details some of the initiatives we've taken to help our economy and improve your quality of life. Please don't hesitate to contact my office with any questions.

Sincerely,


Andrew Maynard
State Senator

Stay Informed in a "Green" Way



Sign-up to receive my e-mail newsletter. It's a paperless way for me to communicate with my constituents about timely issues that impact our communities and our state. To sign up, visit:
www.SenatorMaynard.cga.ct.gov



What's happening at the State Capitol and around the state? Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Flickr to find out.
www.facebook.com/CTSenateDemocrats
twitter.com/CTSenateDems
www.flickr.com/ctsenatedems



Please share or recycle when done with this mailer.

FOR SENIORS

▶ MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAMS (MSP)



Individuals who are enrolled in both Medicare and ConnPACE are no longer able to access ConnPACE benefits. Instead, those eligible for Medicare should apply to the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) in order to receive prescription drug assistance. There is no asset test for this program, and the income limits are the same as those for ConnPACE.

MSP offers eligible seniors savings of at least \$1,000 per year in Medicare Part B premiums. The Medicare Part D Low-Income Subsidy would lower prescription co-payments to \$6.30 or less. For information visit www.ct.gov/dss/medicaresavingsprograms or call Infoline at 211, or CHOICES at 1-800-994-9422.

RESOURCES FOR FORECLOSURE RELIEF

▶ STATE FORECLOSURE MEDIATION PROGRAM

The Connecticut Judicial Branch provides foreclosure mediation in order to help homeowners and lenders reach a mutually agreeable resolution that aims to avoid home foreclosure. For more information, visit the Judicial Branch's Foreclosure Mediation Program Web site.
www.jud.ct.gov/foreclosure

Helping Veterans Prove Their Service

We passed a law allowing the state DMV to include a veteran's status on his or her state driver's license or identity card. Both of these IDs are routinely carried everywhere and widely recognized as official, thereby helping veterans secure the cost-saving benefits they are rightly entitled to. We also extended free, lifetime passes to state parks, forests and other recreational facilities to any Connecticut resident who is a disabled wartime veteran.



Fighting for Jobs & the Economy

State Senator

Andrew Maynard

Legislative Office Building, Room 2300
Hartford, CT 06106-1591
www.SenatorMaynard.cga.ct.gov
1-800-842-1420

Representing

Griswold,

Groton,

North Stonington,

Plainfield,

Preston,

Sterling,

Stonington

& Voluntown

PRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD CT
PERMIT NO. 3937

WINTER 2011



STATE SENATOR Andrew Maynard

Serving Griswold, Groton, North Stonington, Plainfield, Preston, Sterling, Stonington & Voluntown

WINTER 2011

FOR OUR STATE & OUR COMMUNITY

GROWING JOBS

Jobs are the number one issue facing Connecticut today. We took action in the legislature this year to put more people back to work and get our economy growing again. Unlike the partisan gridlock in Washington, both parties came together in Hartford to pass a Jobs Bill of common-sense improvements. We focused on small businesses, **cut the business entity tax in half** and **streamlined state regulations**. Other highlights of the bill include:

- ▶ **Helping small businesses with hiring**—We established a monthly hiring tax credit that increases when businesses hire unemployed, disabled or veteran workers. We also made it easier for businesses to hire new workers for on-the-job training.
- ▶ **Building a workforce of the future**—We will recruit students for vo-tech, agri-science and tech education by promoting their benefits with middle-school parents and local boards of education. We'll also establish manufacturing technology programs at three community colleges.
- ▶ **Investing in infrastructure**—We allocated funds for shovel-ready bridge projects and passed major reforms to lower energy costs and increase energy efficiency.



Touring Connecticut's ports.

In separate legislation, we rebuilt the UConn Health Center, attracting bio-science leader Jackson Laboratory to build a \$1.1 billion research facility nearby. This will create 900 construction positions and up to 6,000 long-term jobs.

The national economy remains tough, but we took big steps this year to get Connecticut growing again.

Helping to Start New Businesses

Innovative entrepreneurs face a difficult problem in today's economy: many banks are not lending. Yet credit is essential to start a new company, so I worked this year to improve tax incentives for other kinds of business investment. So-called 'angel' investors support new ventures in exchange for an ownership stake in the company. To encourage more of this activity—as part of the Jobs Bill—we expanded a 25 percent state tax credit to cover investments as small as \$25,000. This will help many more start-up businesses to get off the ground and begin hiring new employees.



LEGISLATIVE SUCCESS

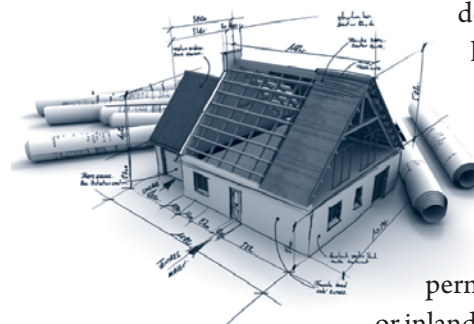
Advancing Our Airports to First Class

Airports generate a tremendous amount of economic activity, especially as hubs for businesses that need timely and inexpensive access to air cargo. That's why as Senate chair of the Transportation Committee, I worked closely with my colleagues and the governor's representatives to craft legislation that created a new 11-member Connecticut Airport Authority to take responsibility for Bradley International Airport and five other state-owned airports, including **Groton/New London** and **Danielson**. This new group will turn airports like Bradley—which is already expected to create billions of dollars in economic activity over the next 15 years—into even greater job-making engines.



Cutting the Red Tape in Construction

Since the global recession, new home-building has slowed to a crawl. So what do developers do when they have a new home site approved, but the clock is ticking on the permit? Before, they were out of luck. But we listened to homebuilders' concerns and are now allowing developers more time to complete certain ongoing projects without seeking permit re-approvals from land use commissions or inland wetlands agencies.



Keeping Our Water Clean

Clean water is good for the environment, healthy for drinking water, good business for those who make a living on Long Island Sound, and contributes to Connecticut's high standard of living, which attracts businesses and homeowners. This year, we made additional investments in various Clean Water Fund projects. The fund helps cities and towns plan, design and construct wastewater collection and treatment plants that result in better public health, cleaner rivers and a healthier Long Island Sound.



Making Cuts While Protecting Municipal Aid

Connecticut's two-year budget includes more than \$1 billion in spending cuts and \$1.6 billion in labor concessions from state employees. It ends the practice of borrowing to fund operating expenses, it fully funds the state's pension obligations and it remains under the state spending cap. **At the same time, the budget protects state levels of municipal aid, which helps towns and cities avoid raising local property taxes.**

As a result, I've ensured that **Griswold, Groton, North Stonington, Plainfield, Preston, Sterling, Stonington** and **Voluntown** receive their fair share of state funding for education, roads and much more.

Local Economic Development

This summer, I was pleased to take Governor Malloy on a tour of the old Norwich State Hospital grounds in Preston. By bringing the site to the governor's attention, I hope to secure state assistance for cleanup and development of this highly valuable property, unlocking its economic potential for the entire region.



Talking with Ed Planeta, Jr. of Acme Wire Products in Mystic at Manufacturing & Technology Day at the Capitol.

Down on the shoreline, I helped secure funds for dredging at the Thames Shipyard which will restore the depth necessary for deeper-draft vessels. It will allow the yard to compete with shipyards in New York and Rhode Island by providing good-paying jobs.

Expanding Options and Opportunity in Education

State funding for public education that is granted based on the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula has long been accused of being inequitable in how it grants support to cities and towns. We formed a task force to study the ECS formula and make recommendations on how to improve. We also expanded the state's Open Choice program to provide increased grants to school districts that enroll students from other less well-performing districts.

